

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ACDA-19 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00

OMB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /137 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5527

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3965

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 2479

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: GUIDANCE FOR NEXT NEGOTIATING SESSION: LINK
BETWEEN PHASES

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: A) USNATO 2411; B) STATE 091987

SUMMARY: SPC MET ON MAY 6 TO CONSIDER NEW IS DRAFT GUIDANCE ON
LINKAGE, WHICH INCORPORATED U.S. PAPER OF MAY 3. FRG STATED
WILLINGNESS TO DECLARE INTENTION TO REDUCE BUNDESWEHR IN PHASE II,
IF EAST ACCEPTS COMMON CEILING CONCEPT. NETHERLANDS OBJECTED TO
LONG DURATION OF 18 MONTH PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES, AND SEVERAL
ALLIES OPPOSED LINKING POSSIBLE TERMINATION OF A PHASE I AGREE-
MENT EXCLUSIVELY TO OUTCOME OF PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS. SPC WILL
MEET ON MAY 7 (AFTER WHICH MEETING WE SHALL TRANSMIT REVISED
DRAFT GUIDANCE) AND MAY 10, LOOKING TOWARD NAC MEETING ON
MAY 14. END SUMMARY

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1. FRG REP SAID THAT BONN WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY U.S. VIEWS ON
NEXT MBFR ROUND (REF A). HE THEN MADE CLEAR, INSTRUCTED STATEMENT
OF FRG WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN A DECLARATION OF GENERAL
INTENT TO REDUCE GROUND FORCES IN PHASE II, CONTINGENT ON ACCEPTANCE

OF THE COMMON CEILING BY THE OTHER SIDE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH A SATISFACTORY PHASE I AGREEMENT. NETHERLANDS AND BELGIAN REPS WELCOMED FRG STATEMENT. ITALY, SECONDED BY UK, SAID THAT PLEDGING REDUCTIONS BY ALL NON-U.S. NATO DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, PER U.S. SUGGESTED GUIDANCE, COULD IN EFFECT RESULT IN NATIONAL SUB-CEILINGS. UK REP HOPED TO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS "VERY SOON" ON POSSIBLE ASSURANCES RE BRITISH REDUCTION IN PHASE II.

2. ITALY, SUPPORTED BY NETHERLANDS, ALSO SAID THAT U.S. SUGGESTION OF INCLUDING IN PHASE I AGREEMENT A PROVISION PERMITTING WITHDRAWAL OF USSR AND U.S. AFTER FIVE YEARS (UNLESS PHASE II AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BY THEN) WAS ONE-SIDED, SINCE U.S. UNLIKELY TO RETURN WITHDRAWN TROOPS TO EUROPE. GERMANY AND BELGIUM THOUGHT THE U.S. SUGGESTION SOUNDED MORE LIKE A THREAT THAN ASSURANCE TO OTHER SIDE. UK PREFERRED A "REVIEW" AFTER FIVE YEARS TO ENABLE EITHER SIDE TO RAISE FUTURE OF PHASE I AGREEMENT IF PHASE II NOT YET AGREED. HE AND OTHERS REACHED NEGATIVELY TO SPECIFIC LINK BETWEEN TERMINATION OF PHASE I AGREEMENT AND OUTCOME OF PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS, SINCE THERE COULD BE OTHER REASONS WHY ALLIES MIGHT DECIDE THAT A PHSE I AGREEMENT HAD BECOME INVALID.

3. NETHERLANDS REP (REFLECTING RECENT HIGH-LEVEL DECISIONS IN THE HAGUE) SAID THAT THE U.S. PROPOSED COMMITMENT TO BEGIN PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS NOT LATER THAN 18 MONTHS AFTER SIGNATURE OF PHASE I PROVIDED TOO LONG A DELAY BETWEEN PHASES. NETHERLANDS COULD NOT ACCEPT 18 MONTHS, AND DID NOT SEE NEED FOR ANY SIGNIFICANT TIME PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES. BELGIAN REP REPEATED HIS POSITION THAT BEGINNING OF PHASE II SHOULD RELATE TO PROGRESS OF PHASE I WITHDRAWALS. GREEK REP PROPOSED BEGINNING PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS NOT LATER THAN AT END OF TIME AGREED UPON FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PHASE I WITHDRAWALS. FRG OBJECTED TO MENTIONING 18 MONTHS SPECIFICALLY, PREFERRING TO FALL BACK TO THIS AFTER STATING ALLIED WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE A SPECIFIC TIME PERIOD. U.S. REP DREW ON REFTEL B.

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4. NETHERLANDS AND ITALY WANTED WEST INITIALLY TO PROPOSE NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT LIMITED IN DURATION TO MAXIMUM OF TWO YEARS, SINCE FIVE YEARS, AS PROPOSED BY U.S., MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO OTHER SIDE. UK SUGGESTED DURATION OF THREEE TO FIVE YEARS, TO BE FIXED IN RELATION TO THE FIXED PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES, SINCE FOR EXAMPLE AN 18 MONTH FIXED PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES WOULD RULE OUT A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT OF ONLY TWO YEARS. U.S. REP SUPPORTED FLEXIBILITY OF FIVE YEAR MAXIMUM.
MCAULIFFE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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VIENNA
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